

87APL85

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

日二十月二年酉乙

Notices to Consignees.

Shipping.

Steamers.

THE CHINA & MANILA STEAMSHIP
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR HOIHOW AND HAPHONG.

The Co.'s Steamship
Amatista,
Captain HANLIN, will be
despatched for the above
Ports on WEDNESDAY, the 8th Instant,
at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, April 6, 1885. 560

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCOW
(SHARP PEAK.)

The Co.'s Steamship

 **Fokien,**
Capt. WESTROY, will be
despatched for the above
Ports on **WEDNESDAY**, the 8th Instant,
at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, April 6, 1885. 576

**INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.**

FOR SHANGHAI.

*(Taking Cargo & Passengers at through rates
for CHEONG CHANG, NEW
CHWANG, HANKOW and Ports on the
YANGTSEI.)*

 The Co.'s Chartered
Steamship
Nanzing,
Capt. BALBENCK, will be
despatched as above on **WEDNESDAY**,
the 8th Instant, at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, April 6, 1885. 684

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SHANGHAI (DIRECT).

(Taking Cargo & Passengers at through rates
for NINGPO, CHEFOO, NEW-
CHANG, TIENSI, HANKOW and
Ports on the YANGTSE.)

The Co.'s Steamship
Archie,
Captain JACKSON, will be
despatched as above on
MONDAY, the 13th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, April 6, 1885. 679

Sailing Vessels.

FOR NEW YORK.

The 3/3 L.L. American Bark
Greenock
RULAND, Master, will load here
for the above Port, and will
have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.
Hongkong, February 10, 1885. 23

Mails.

AMERICAN MAIL

Sailing Vessels.


FOR NEW YORK.

The 3/3 L.L. American Bark
Greenock
RULAND, Master, will load here
for the above Port, and will
have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.
Hongkong, February 10, 1885. 22

Mails.

AMERICAN MAIL



STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO,
ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID,
MALTA, GIBRALTAR, BRINDISI,
VENICE, TRIESTE,
PLYMOUTH, AND LONDON;
ALSO,
BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, AND
AUSTRALIA.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bill of Lading for BATAVIA, PERSIA, GULF PORTS, MARSEILLE, TRIESTE, HAMBURG, NEW YORK.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM
NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship
MALWA, Captain G. W. ATKINSON, with
Her Majesty's Mails, will be despatched
from this for LONDON, via BOMBAY
and SUEZ CANAL, on TUESDAY, the
14th day of APRIL.

Cargo will be received on board until
10 a.m. on the day of sailing.

Parcels and Species (Gold) at the Office
until 10 a.m. on the day of sailing.

Silk and Valuables for Europe will be
received at the Office until 10 a.m. on the day of sailing.

General Cargo for London will be conveyed
via Bombay without transhipment, arriving
one week later than by the ordinary direct
route via Colombo.

For further Particulars regarding
FREIGHTS and PASSAGE, apply to the
PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION

TRANSIT COMPANY'S Office, Hongkong.
The Contents and Value of Packages are required to be declared prior to shipment.
 Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bills of Lading.
 Passengers desirous of insuring their baggage can do so on application at the Company's Office.
N.B.—This Steamer
 Hongkong, **1891**
 A. M.
 Hongkong, **1891**

For Sale.

MacEwen, Frickel & Co.

HAY MOVED INTO THEIR NEW
STORES

VICTORIA EXCHANGE,

QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
AND ARE SELLINGSTORES AND OTHER RETAIL ARTICLES
at the lowest possible prices

FOR CASH,

and giving the benefit of the Co-operative
Store system to the Public without the
necessity of Membership. Detailed Prices
will be furnished on application.

—30—

CROSBY & BLACKWELL'S
OILMAN'S STORES.JOHN MOIR & SONS, LIMITED,
OILMAN'S STORES.J. T. MORROW'S
OILMAN'S STORES.MACONACHIE BROTHERS'
Lowestoft
OILMAN'S STORES.AMERICAN
OILMAN'S STORES.

WINES, &c.

CHATEAU MARGAUX.

CHATEAU LA TOUR, pints & quarts.

MRS. GRAVES.

BREAKFAST CLARET.

SACON'S MANZANILLA & AMON-
TILLA.SACON'S OLD INVALID PORT
(1848).

HUNT'S PORT.

1 and 3-star HENNESSY'S BRANDY.

COGNAC HENNESSY'S BRANDY.

FINEST OLD BOURBON WHISKY.

KILBURN'S LL WHISKY.

ROYAL GLENDEE WHISKY.

BOON'S OLD TOM.

E. & J. BUREK'S IRISH WHISKY.

ROSE'S LIME JUICE CORDIAL.

NORRIS PRAT & CO'S VERMOUTH.

JAMESON'S IRISH WHISKY.

MARSA.

EASTERN AMERICAN CIDER.

CHARTREUSE.

MARASCHINO.

CURAÇAO.

—30—

BASS'S ALE, bottled by CAMERON &
SAUNDERS, pints and quarts.GUINNESS'S STOUT, bottled by E. &
J. BUREK, pints and quarts.DRAUGHT ALE and PORTER, by the
Gallon.

ALE and PORTER, in hogheads.

—30—

TO LET, FROM 1st MAY.

SHOPS and GODOWNS, and STOR-
AGE, at No. 55 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST,
(opposite the Temperance Hall). Also,
BEDROOMS, SHEDS, and KITCHEN AC-
COMMODATION.

Apply to

MacEwen, Frickel & Co.

Hongkong, April 4, 1885.

—30—

THE REPORT OF THE TRIAL OF
LOGAN AT CANTON, that appeared in
the China Mail has been printed in PAM-
PHLET FORM, and is now on Sale.—
Price, 30 Cents.

Hongkong, October 3, 1883.

Insurance.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY.

(FIRE AND LIFE)

CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant
Policies against the Risk of FIRE on
Buildings or on Goods stored therein, on
Goods on board Vessels and on Hulls of
Vessels in Harbour, at the usual Terms
and Conditions.Proposals for Life Assurances will be re-
ceived, and transmitted to the Directors
for their decision.If required, protection will be granted on
first class Lives up to £1000 on a Single
Life.For Rates of Premiums, forms of pro-
posals or any other information, apply to
ARNOLD, KARBURG & Co.,
Agents, Hongkong & Canton.

Hongkong, January 4, 1887.

—30—

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE
INSURANCE COMPANY.THE Undersigned, Agents of the above
Company, are authorized to insure
against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1882.

NOTICE.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COM-
PANY.THE Undersigned are prepared to accept
Bills on First Class Goods at 1
per cent. net premium per annum.

NORTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, May 19, 1881.

—30—

THE STRAITS INSURANCE COM-
PANY, LIMITED.THE Undersigned having been appointed
Agents for the above Corporation are
prepared to GRANT POLICIES on MARINE
RISKS to all parts of the World, at current
rates.

ARNOLD, KARBURG & Co.

Hongkong, November 5, 1883.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF
His Majesty King George The First,
A.D. 1720.THE Undersigned having been appointed
Agents for the above Corporation are
prepared to grant Insurances as follows—1. On Goods, at current rates, payable either
by the principal Port
2. On Goods, at current rates, payable either
by the principal Port
3. On Goods, at current rates, payable either
by the principal Port

—30—

Intimations.

WINTER TIME TABLE.

THE KOWLOON FERRY.

STEAM-LAUNCH
MORNING STARRuns DAILY as a FERRY BOAT between
Poddar's Wharf and Tsim-Tsu-Tai at the
following hours.—This Time Table will take
effect from the 1st November, 1884.

WEEK DAYS. SUNDAYS.

Leave K'loon. Leave K'loon. Leave K'loon. Leave K'loon.

6.00 A.M. 7.00 A.M. 6.00 A.M. 7.00 A.M.

8.00 " 8.30 " 7.30 " 8.00 "

8.50 " 9.00 " 8.00 " 9.10 "

9.40 " 10.15 " 11.00 " NOON.

10.45 " 12.30 " 12.30 P.M. 1.00 P.M.

12.45 P.M. 1.00 " 1.30 " 2.00 "

1.30 " 2.00 " 2.30 " 3.00 "

2.20 " 3.00 " 3.20 " 4.00 "

3.20 " 3.50 " 4.20 " 4.50 "

4.20 " 4.50 " 5.00 " 5.10 "

4.50 " 5.10 " 5.30 " 5.50 "

5.25 " 5.40 " 6.10 " 6.30 "

6.05 " 6.30 " 7.00 "

6.50 " 7.05 "

—30—

FREDERIC ALGAR,

COLONIAL, NEWSPAPER & COMMIS-
SION AGENT,11, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street,
LONDON.THE Colonial Press supplied with News-
papers, Books, Types, Ink, Presses,
Papers, Correspondents, Letters, and any
European Goods on London terms.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS.

Colonial Newspapers received at the office
regularly filed for the inspection of
Advertisers and the Public.

To-day's Advertisements.

STEAMSHIP NATAL.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo per Steamships
Natal and Havre, from London,
Antwerp, and Havre, in connection with
the above Steamers, are hereby informed
that their Goods—with the exception of
Opium, Treasure and Valuables—are being
landed and stored at their risk at the Com-
pany's Godowns, whence delivery may be
obtained immediately after landing.
Optional Cargo will be forwarded on, unless
intimation is received from the Consignees
before Noon. To-day (Tuesday), requesting
it to be landed here.Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
the Undersigned.Goods remaining unclaimed after Tues-
day, the 14th Instant, at Noon, will be
subject to rent, and landing charges at 1
cent. per package per diem.All Claims must be sent in to me on or
before the 17th Instant, or they will not be
recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, April 7, 1885.

FROM LONDON, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.THE Steamship *Glenfruin* having arrived
from the above Ports, Consignees of
Cargo by her are hereby informed that
their Goods—with the exception of Opium
—are being landed at their risk into the
Godowns of the Undersigned, whence and/or
from the Wharves or Boats delivery may
be obtained.Optional Cargo will be forwarded un-
less notice to the contrary be given before
Noon To-day, the 7th Instant.Cargo remaining undelivered after the
14th Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, April 7, 1885.

Intimations.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.FOR AMOY AND TAMSUI.
The Co.'s Steamship
Hailong,
Capt. GODDARD, will be
despatched for the above
Ports on THURSDAY, the 9th Instant, at
Noon.For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, April 7, 1885.

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For Freight or Passage, apply to

THE CONSPIRACY CASE.

The case in which the two hawkers, Chun Ahing and Chun Ahing, were charged with conspiring together to bring a false charge of murder against Mok Apin and others, which was discharged on Saturday last by Mr. Wodehouse, at the Police Court, is one of the most remarkable and also one of the most complicated cases which have been brought before the notice of the public for many years. The chief regret that the community will feel with regard to the case will doubtless be that another cruel murder has been committed in the Colony, and the murderer or murderers have escaped from the hands of justice. The horrible atrocity committed a few months since at Tai-tai-mui by some members of the Hakka clan, which was passed over by the Attorney General, in spite of the fact of strong personal evidence being adduced against one man, as a case unworthy of putting before a jury, excited naturally a feeling of horror and insecurity. When, however, the murder of the unfortunate old Indian, Ali Mahomed Rehemah, became known, it was generally believed that, with the powerful and intelligent force of Police at the command of the Colony, such a crime, committed in the heart of the city, could not go unpunished. It has, however, been most unmistakably proved, during the last six months, that the capital crime, murder, is the one most safely to be committed by malefactors in Hongkong; the one in which the criminals have the best chance of escape from the grip of the law. To whom this immunity from conviction for capital crime is due is for the community to judge.

In the case before us, Mok Apin was tried on the 18th March before the Supreme Court in Criminal Sessions for the murder of Ali Mahomed Rehemah, on the 10th February. The case was so recently before the public that it is unnecessary to recapitulate the evidence, which was not considered strong enough by a special jury to convict the prisoner. The defence set up was that the prisoner was acquitted. On the following day the second man charged with the murder, Chun Ahing, was tried. The evidence against him was almost entirely limited to the statement of the hawker Chun Ahing that he was one of the three men whom he saw enter the Indian shop on the evening of the murder, and the prisoner's own confession that he was actually one of the men who attempted to rob the Indian, but that he had nothing to do with murdering him, this being done by the first prisoner. Another man not named, was also charged in this case, during the course of the trial, made a statement to Inspector Mathieson, retracting his former statement or confession, and intimating that he and the hawker Chun Ahing and some others had brought the charge of murder against Mok Apin with the idea of obtaining the reward offered by the Government for information which would lead to the conviction of the murderer. The new story told by the prisoner appears to have been credited both by the Chief Justice and the jury, and even Mok Apin himself, who was then brought forward by the Government for information which would lead to the conviction of the murderer. The new story told by the prisoner appears to have been credited both by the Chief Justice and the jury, and even Mok Apin himself, who was then brought forward by the Government for information which would lead to the conviction of the murderer.

A number of witnesses were examined and a mass of evidence taken, but in spite of this and also in the face of the confession of the men themselves, Mr. Wodehouse on Saturday last discharged both prisoners. One of two things is morally certain:—either the story told by the two prisoners in the first instance was correct, and Mok Apin was guilty of the murder of Rehemah, or they are guilty of having given false evidence with the intention of convicting an innocent man of the crime. The decision of Mr. Wodehouse clearly demonstrates that he was himself of the opinion that Mok Apin was guilty of the murder. The special jury which tried the man were however of a different opinion, and in the present instance we consider Mr. Wodehouse to be in error in summarily deciding a case of such intricacy and importance without allowing it to go before a jury. Both in the interests of justice, and also for the purpose of clearing the names of two most energetic and responsible officers of the Police force from the suspicions cast upon them by the prisoners, the case should have been thoroughly investigated with legal aid. If an official and searching enquiry were now to be ordered it would probably be too late, as the time has passed in which the case could be reopened. The case should have been thoroughly investigated with legal aid. If an official and searching enquiry were now to be ordered it would probably be too late, as the time has passed in which the case could be reopened.

TELEGRAMS.

Peace Between France and China.

(Special to the "China Mail.")
PEKING, April 6th, 1885.

Peace concluded between France and China, through intermediation of Sir Robert Hart at Peking and French Government direct from Paris. Basis is Fournier Convention of the 9th May, pure and simple. No indemnity.

A private telegram, which tends to confirm the above, has been received from Tientsin, which states—"It is the general opinion here that peace has been signed." From Shanghai another private telegram gives it thus—"I am informed upon good authority that peace protocol arrangements have been completed by advice from Paris of 4th April."

Other advice, received from independent sources, confirm the news given above, in almost the same words which make up our telegram; and there seems to be no doubt, although no official confirmation has yet been made public, that the preliminaries of peace have been arranged, this time directly with the French Govern-

ment. Doubtless, the influence of the late Sir Harry Parkes has been felt in preparing the way for this result; but Sir Robert Hart deserves credit for the part he has played in the satisfactory arrangement.

It may be added that telegrams from Shanghai speak of an armistice having been agreed to, pending the result at the negotiations for peace. This evidently refers to a measure taken as a preliminary to the announcement of peace; and we understand that the official notification of the conclusion of peace was not to be made until to-day. Orders have, we believe, been forwarded to the ports and stations where hostilities have been going on; and the practical application of the terms of the peace settlement will be carried out as soon as the intelligence can be conveyed to these places.

TURKEY AND ITALIANS TO PACIFY THE SOUDAN.

MADRAS, March 20.

A Cairo telegram states that it is confidentially (confidentially) stated in French political circles that the pacification of the Soudan will be undertaken by Turkish and Italian troops; the Turks from Suakin to Berber and Khartoum; the Italians from Massowah to Sened, Kassala and Khartoum.

Although what is suggested here may at present be far from the intention of the British Government, it is quite within the bounds of possibility, nay of probability, that in the event of going to war with Russia, Britain would assign the task of subduing the Mahdi to the allies who are so eager to give some tangible mark of their friendship.

THE TEA DUTY.

CALCUTTA, March 13.

Calcutta Tea Association have telegraphed to the branch association, London, desiring that strong remonstrance be made on behalf of India against the proposal to add three pence per pound to the tea duty. A memorial on the subject has been forwarded to the Government of India.

The Re-capture of Langson.

Intelligence received by the S.S. *Nimrod*, which arrived last evening from Haiphong, though rather meagre, fully confirms the news of the recapture of Langson by the Chinese forces and a serious reverse sustained by the troops under General Negrier. It appears that the rains commenced in the north of Tonquin towards the end of last month and the road towards Langson became next to impassable in many places. As a consequence the convoys of stores and munitions sent forward for the supply of the brigade at Langson failed to reach that place and it became evident to General Negrier that it would be impossible to hold the position. He therefore made arrangements to evacuate Langson, sending the sick and a large portion of the troops under his command away on the road to Kep, while he himself, with the rest of the force, marched out in the direction of the Kwang frontier and attacked the Chinese, whom he found to be strongly reinforced upon the border. The first attack took place on the 28th ult., in the afternoon, and was carried on into the night. In this engagement the Chinese were driven from their position, only now to resume the offensive on the following day, when a very severe conflict occurred. In this fight General Negrier was seriously wounded by a bullet, which passed through his body from side to side. After a very severe struggle the French troops were forced to retreat, and the same day Langson was recaptured by the Chinese. The French loss is said to have been eighty killed and two hundred wounded. The ammunition ran short before the engagement was finished and the retreat was continued during the following days until Kep was reached.

As soon as information of the disaster reached Hanoi, General Briere de Lisle proceeded with all despatch to Kep, with a force of 4,000 men, and assumed the direct command. General Negrier was sent to the hospital at Hanoi. It is believed that fully 80,000 Chinese soldiers were encountered in the engagement on the 29th ult., and the position at Kep is still considered in a critical position.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.—King's Cross, Feb. 23.

The next ENGLISH MAIL, per the P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Ventura*, left Singapore for this port on Friday, the 3rd inst., at 7 a.m., and may be expected here on or about Wednesday, the 8th inst.

The next AMERICAN MAIL, per the P. M. S. S. Co.'s steamer *City of Tokio*, left Yokohama on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at daylight, and may be expected here on or about Wednesday, the 8th inst.

The S. S. *Polynesian* left Singapore for this port on the 6th inst.

The delivery of the French mail was begun at 7.30 this morning.

The Spanish frigate *Araya* left here to-day for Manila.

A shooting match is arranged to take place to-morrow afternoon at Kowloon, between two police teams, one of which will comprise eight of the "cracks" of the Force, and the other nine of the "duffers."

The French corvette *Primauguet*, Captain Buge, arrived here to-day from the Pescadores.

REAR-ADMIRAL Rousier left Brest in the ironclad *Turquoise* on the 22nd February for the Far East. The Admiral will arrive too late to be of any service in the conflict between France and China, if he arrives at all.

LEUT. Colonel Dugonne, who was in command of the French forces at Baclo last year when the Chinese made the attack which has led to the present war, is a passenger by the mail steamer *Natal* (which arrived here this morning from Aden, to Kowloon, where he assumes the chief command of the land forces under Admiral Courbet.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 19.—The *Journal de St. Pétersbourg*, commenting upon recent ministerial statements in Parliament, says that, both parties remaining in positions now occupied and abstaining from aggression, the ground was cleared for pacific negotiations between England and Russia. This telegram, taken from an Indian paper, may be taken to mean that Russia has obtained all she at present desires, and that if Britain does not attempt to drive her back, she will remain content, at least for the present.

So heartily sick of the war with China had the people of France become when the last mail left that they were not content with freely expressing their opinions privately. We find in a home paper the following significant item:—The Paris Municipal Council has adopted, by fifty-two votes to two, a resolution condemning a policy of remote expeditions and colonial adventures, and calling on Parliament to put an end to them as speedily as possible, but expressing sympathy with the soldiers and sailors engaged in the Far East. In all probability the example thus set by the Parisians would be speedily followed by the provincial councils.

A SHOPMAN named Cheong Ahwong, employed in the Mee-kong shop, No. 11 Bonham Street, was arrested yesterday on a warrant granted upon information supplied by Loong Kwong, a shopman formerly employed in the Mee-kong shop, on suspicion of being connected with setting fire to the premises, 11 Bonham Street, on the 18th October last. The prisoner was brought before Mr. Wodehouse, at the Police Court this morning and was charged with maliciously and feloniously setting fire to the premises with intent to defraud a certain Hamburg Fire Insurance Co., on the 18th Oct., 1884.

Mr. Wotton appeared for the prosecution and applied for a remand and the case was remanded till the 10th inst.

On Friday the 20th February, in the House of Commons, Sir M. Hicks-Baugh asked the Secretary of State for War whether any progress had been made with the provision of the works and armaments for the defence of our coaling stations abroad; and when an estimate for the purpose would be submitted to Parliament.

The Marquis of Hartington.—Progress has been made with the works at Aden and Hongkong, and in the production of armaments generally. For these purposes a sum of £35,000 will be taken in the Supplementary Estimates for 1884-85, which will be laid on the table of the House within the next few days. The money required in the next financial year will be included in the Army Estimates for 1885-86, which were laid last night on the table of the House.

An amended copy of the Order of the Day for to-morrow's meeting of the Legislative Council, contains the following additional items:

1. The Honourable T. Jackson, pursuant to notice, will ask the following questions:—1st. Has the blockade of Pak-hoi been legally notified? 2nd. Is an effective blockade? 3rd. Can your Excellency suggest any remedies for the existing evils under which the trade of this Colony with Pak-hoi, and the surrounding district, is at present suffering, in consequence of the reported blockade?

We presume that now peace has been arranged, and all blockades are at an end, the hon. gentleman will withdraw his questions. Fortunately there will be no further need for questioning of this sort, at least in the immediate future. It is to be hoped when similar circumstances again arise, the unofficial members of the Council will take more speedy action than they have done in the present instance.

BAD as we are placed as regards defences in Hongkong, we are certain the sympathies of everyone will go out towards the sister colony of Singapore after reading the following:—

London, 28th March.—In the House of Lords, Lord Sidmouth called attention to the defenceless condition of Singapore. Lord Northbrook replied that the fortification of Singapore was postponed until next year, in view of the greater importance of Hongkong, and that the Governor of the Straits Settlements had been ordered to take whatever steps he considered advisable for the protection of the ports.

It is certainly very hard on Singapore that it should have to wait for protection until we are made secure here, but all the same, we will be selfish enough not to object to the Government's intention to place Hongkong in security first. Possibly it

would give us great satisfaction here, if the authorities were also to tell us 'to take whatever steps we consider advisable for the protection of the port.'

CAPTAIN Desmory has been appointed to the command of the *Duguay-Trouin*, relieving Captain Guin, who returns to France on account of ill-health. M. Desmory proceeds by the *Chateau-Yquem*, which is to leave on the 2nd prox.

LONDON, 22nd March.—The Under Secretary for the Colonies, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that Col. Warren has settled the Soudan difficulty and is hopeful of pacifying Goshen.

A LADY, who was a passenger by the S. S. *Chusan*, rather astonished the denizens of the Colombo harbour the other day by quietly walking down the gangway of the steamer, taking a 'header' into the sea, and swimming to the adjoining steamer, the *Nauvau*, and back again. This feat by a member of the fair sex produced, says a Colombo paper, a profound sensation, and the number of ladies working on board the various vessels in harbour, as well as the other natives who were on or about the shipping in harbour.

The arrangements indicated in the annexed paragraph, taken from the latest home papers, will probably be cancelled:—

The French Government has freighted two new ships for the transport of munitions and coal to Haiphong. The ships in question are the *Yoruba*, of the Senegal Company, which takes coal, and the packet-boat *Louis*, with munitions. They have received orders to repair forthwith to Tong-King.

The French Government have called for tenders for a monthly service of cargo boats between France and Tong-King. They will be required to carry coal principally.

The *St. Jean* left Toulon on the 20th inst. for Tong-King, having 335 civil and military passengers. The *Viel-Loup* arrived on the 19th with 398 passengers from Tong-King.

It is satisfactory to hear, says the *St. James' Post*, from Lord Granville that he considers France and China to be belligerent States, and therefore intends to apply against both parties the rules which regulate the dealings of neutrals with nations at war. So far it seems that France has raised no serious objection to international law, but no means recognize as Lord Salisbury pointed out, there is something extremely like a 'paper blockade' enforced on the Chinese coast. The French do not effectively blockade more than two or three ports, if indeed, they can really be said to blockade any. But we have heard that Chinese vessels bound to other places are subjected to search and seizure. And now we learn that rice is declared to be contraband of war! But if rice, why not tea, or sugar, or cotton cloth? Why not, in fact, declare all commerce with China contraband? This would simplify matters considerably for the French admirals, and have the further advantage of completing the ruin of the English trade in China.

Just before last mail left, at the eleventh hour, the British Government formally announced that though no declaration of war had been made either by France or China, a state of war actually existed between these two countries; and even this tardy acknowledgment seems to have been wrung from them. The vacillation of the Government in this respect has already been so thoroughly exposed and condemned that we need do no more than draw attention to the following paragraph as a convincing proof of the righteousness of the charges levelled against the Government:—In reply to the Secretary of Lord's Mr. T. Lister, of the Foreign-Office, writes on the 14th inst.:—I am to state that although no formal declaration of war has been issued by either France or China, a state of war exists in fact. Her Majesty's Government have, therefore, deemed it necessary to enforce the provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Act, and they cannot consider the belligerent right of search on the high seas asserted by France, but I am to add that Lord Granville has received an assurance from the French Ambassador that this right will be exercised with all possible respect for the legitimate interests of British trade.

INQUESTS.

This afternoon inquests were held on four bodies, at the Mortuary. The first was on the body of Andrew Cooke, who committed suicide by swallowing a quantity of carbolic lotion on Saturday last. The jury sworn consisted of Messrs H. H. Reid, C. C. Corbett and P. D'Augustino.

From the evidence of deceased's boy M. Robetis, it appeared that the boy on seeing deceased take up the bottle, tried to prevent him drinking out of it. Deceased, however, threatened to strike the boy, and caused him to let go the bottle, and then deceased took two long draughts out of it. After taking the lotion down he was unable to speak. The night before the occurrence, deceased was rather queer, could not sleep and was always making a noise, shouting out.

Dr. Patrick Manson said he had attended deceased since the middle of February until his death. He operated on him, and from the time of operation deceased had been gradually recovering. The operation was an extensive one. From the first Dr. Manson remarked an eccentricity about deceased; he was nervous and dull without being silly. He did not suspect him of being out of his mind. The bottle shown contained five per cent. of carbolic, in a solution of water, and was used as a lotion to bathe the wound. It is a deadly poison taken in large quantities. The dose took about half an hour to take effect, and the medicinal dose was from two to three grains; the quantity taken by deceased was more than enough to have caused his death. Dr. Manson was of opinion that he committed suicide from an insane impulse.

The second inquest was held on the body of Yung Wong Hi, a girl aged eight years, who fell down a ladder in house No. 39 Queen's Road East, on the evening of the 1st instant, and died from the injuries sustained. She fell a distance of eighteen feet. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. Another jury was then sworn, consisting of Messrs V. A. P. Collado, J. M. do Carvalho, and Ho Yi Shing. The third inquest was on the body of one of the men who was severely scalded by the boiler explosion which occurred at King Hong Dock, on the 20th ultimo. It was at first thought he would recover from his injuries, but he died in the Government Civil Hospital on Friday last. The witnesses called were the Police, the man who was injured, who said he was a sleep when the accident happened, and Mr. J. W. Boyd, Engineer. This gentleman said he was present a few minutes after the explosion and examined the furnace crown. This he found to be red hot, showing conclusively that there had been no water in the boiler and that the accident was due to the boiler's own carelessness. The boiler was a good one. It was tested to stand 100 lbs. pressure twelve months ago, and Mr. Boyd examined it last November and found it to be good in all respects. Independent testimony should be called regarding the quality of the boiler and for that purpose he adjourned the enquiry until Wednesday afternoon, the 15th inst., at 3 o'clock.

The fourth inquest was held on the body of a Chinese who was killed by a large boulder falling on him while he was at work on Behler's Point Battery, on Sunday morning. After taking part of the evidence the inquest was adjourned, to allow of the coroner and jury visiting the spot where the accident occurred. The enquiry will be resumed at the Magistrate's on Wednesday, the 15th, at 3 p.m.

SUPREME COURT.
IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.
(Before the Hon. E. J. Ashford, Puisne Judge.)
Tuesday, April 7th.

CHUN HING v. WILLIAM DAVIS.—\$75.
Mr. Caldwell appeared for defendant. It appeared that plaintiff had formerly been employed as steward to the forward mess of the *Fokien*, and received \$100 per month to provide a mess for four passengers. Defendant, who was captain of the steamer, was manager of the mess, and plaintiff declared he had only been paid part of the money for January, although he acknowledged having been paid for February and part of March. Defendant and the third engineer of the steamer, Mr. West, both gave evidence to the effect that plaintiff gave orders to the cook to cook the mess, was fully paid, and that he was discharged for laziness. His Lordship believed the evidence for the defence, and said it was evident plaintiff was trying to extort what was not due to him. He therefore nonsuited plaintiff with costs.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.
(Before H. E. Wodehouse, Esq.)
Tuesday, April 7.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.
Peter Conway, a seaman belonging to the U. S. S. *Albatross*, 5 Ship Street, was charged with being drunk and being in possession of a quantity of opium, to the value of \$2.50, on the 6th inst. From the evidence of the complainant, Chan Lai, it appeared that defendant came to her house on the evening of the 6th inst. to get a drink, and was charged with being drunk and in possession of the opium. Defendant was fined \$1, and \$2.50 towards the complainant.

Francis Murphy, a private in the Buffs, was charged with disorderly conduct, and was fined \$5, and \$5 towards the complainant. P. C. Wong was in the execution of his duty, on the 3rd inst., in default of paying a fine of \$5, defendant was sent to prison for seven days' hard labour.

LARCENY OF A DIAMOND RING.
Ismael Xavier, clerk of the *Macao*, was charged with stealing a diamond ring, value \$25, the property of Mrs. M. Smith on the 5th inst.

Complainant is a widow, living at No. 11 Beaufort Arcade. A little after 2 p.m. on the 5th inst. she went out, giving the key of a desk in her room to her son, and the desk there was a box of jewellery. When she returned to the house she missed a diamond ring from the box, and from what her son told her she suspected the defendant, who lived in the same house, and who was a groom in the household. He was a groom in Hongkong to look for employment. After the defendant was arrested complainant received a letter (produced) from him admitting having taken the ring.

Defendant stated that he did not take the ring with the intention of stealing it, but merely to show it. He was going to Macao yesterday and sent his clothes on in advance and the ring with them.

Defendant was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

NEWS BY THE FRENCH MAIL.

(L & C. Express, February 27.)
H. H. Prince Kan Mun Naper, the Siam Minister, called at the Admiralty on the 23rd inst., and had an interview with Lord Northbrook. H. H. Prince presented to the First Lord the surveys of the east coast of Siam, which have recently been prepared by the direction of Mr. R. Storey, Assoc. M. Inst. C.E., late Engineer in Chief of the Imperial Dockyard, Nagasaki, the Fourth Class 'of the Rising Sun', as a recognition of the valuable service he rendered to the Japanese Government during his long tenure of office.

The French Chamber have now before them four subjects of importance to the Far East. They are the Treaties of Hue, regulating the French Protectorate, that with Cambodia, also concerning the Protectorate of France, of commerce with Siam, and lastly one for regulating the Siam Traffic in Siam.

With reference to the extension of the telegraph in Siam, we hear that the new Bangkok-Tavoy line will be completed this year. A line from Bangkok to Ueng-mai (Zimma), in the north of Siam, is also to be constructed, the line being 600 miles long. Mr. Hewlett, Consul at Canton, has been spending some time at Geneva for his health, which we are sorry to learn has not been so satisfactory of late. He is now, however, convalescing, and proposes starting for China by the first English mail in March. Dr. Dagat, late of the French Legation at Peking, is still at Marseilles. His health is now very nearly established, and he hopes this summer to begin practice either at Marseilles or at Aix les Bains.

THE FIGHTING IN THE RED SEA.

LONDON, 21st March.—General Graham telegraphs that his force started from camp at Suakin at daybreak yesterday and after severe fighting cleared the hills near Hasheen. The enemy's force was estimated at four thousand. General Graham and his force advanced to Tama. The Indian Lancos charged the enemy concealed in the bush, and meanwhile an entrenched zoroeba was formed which is now garrisoned by the 70th Regiment with six guns.

The remainder of the force returned to camp. Lieut. Dalton of the Scotch Fusiliers and 8 men were killed. Among the wounded were Major Harvey of the 5th Lancos, Major Robertson of the 9th Bengal Cavalry severely, Doctor Lana, and 33 men wounded. The enemy's loss was heavy.

In telegraphing an account of the engagement to Lord Wolsey, General Graham praised specially the Indian troops. On the 20th March, Sir Evelyn Wood has established his headquarters at Debbeh. The British force evacuated Korti at the end of this month.

Suakin, 21st March.—Another account of the action at Hasheen gives the following particulars:—On the enemy being attacked by General Graham's forces the enemy retreated in large numbers towards Tama. The British lost 22 killed, including 17 belonging to the Indian Contingent, and 44 wounded, of which 16 were Indian. Major Robertson of the 9th Bengal Cavalry was wounded in the thigh. The men of the Indian Contingent behaved splendidly. They changed the enemy twice, inflicting great loss.

The Indian infantry and a British force under General MacNeil started from Suakin at 7 this morning in two squares on the road to Tama for the purpose of constructing a railway. It was intended to leave the Berkshire Regiment to garrison them while the rest of the force would return to camp. The rebels tried to intercept the force, but were prevented by a cannonade from the Hasheen zoroeba and the ships in harbour. Heavy loss was inflicted on the enemy.

Suakin, 22nd March, Midnight.—The troops advanced this morning and succeeded in forming a zoroeba six miles on the road to Tama. The zoroeba was afterwards attacked by the enemy, who were repulsed with a loss of over a thousand men. Our loss is 5 officers and 51 men, including 25 Indians, and 170 wounded, of whom 70 were Indians.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

In the House of Lords, on the 23rd Feb. the Earl of Darnley rose to ask Her Majesty's Government whether there had been a declaration of war between France and China; whether the 'right of search' was exercised or claimed by either of those Powers; and whether the rules regulating the conduct of neutrals towards belligerents were applied to French and Chinese vessels in British ports. The noble earl said he found in *The Times* of the 21st inst. the following statements from its correspondent at Hong Kong:—

'The so-called "blockade" is only effective against European merchants. In Tientsin we are not without ten mails from Europe, and we cannot get away. Several French war-vessels run along the coast and sink every boat which they meet, taking the crews to Kowloon, where they are treated barbarously. The soundings of the French are unparalleled in the history of modern civilized warfare. The latest French action on the Formosan coast has excited the greatest indignation. The French vessels are to receive ten days' provisions and ten days' coal. Signons are to be sent to the nearest port, but the *Zephore* received more, why, no one knows. Letters from every quarter in China and Japan tell me that England is condemned for allowing the French to use Hong Kong as a base.'

Now he could scarcely suppose that the French were not conducting their operations in a manner consistent with civilized warfare and the usage of civilized nations; but he was not quite clear that what *The Times* correspondent said about the action on the Formosan coast was correct, or the want of action on the part of Her Majesty's Government was exaggerated. He said, from the experience of the last few years, they could hardly feel sure that Her Majesty's Government had any very distinct comprehension of their duties (hear, hear) or any very distinct determination to carry out their duties. He said he understood the particular trader whom he has reason to suspect and watches her and follows her about. If anything of the kind had taken place it is a gross breach of the international practice in this respect. (Hear, hear.) I hope the noble earl will be able to tell me that the public reports to this effect are erroneous; but, at all events, it appears to me that, both as to the fact, which the right of search is permitted, and the extent to which hostility is given to the belligerent vessels, the answer of the noble earl is very imperfect, and I hope he will supplement it by laying papers on the table, and give us at the same time the text of the Declaration of War, which has been issued to the Colonial authorities.

Earl Granville was understood to say that he had no objection to lay papers on the table. The Lord Chancellor said that the right of search was limited to a certain extent, and he had no reference to the prevention of the introduction of articles of contraband of war for the use of a belligerent.

Quotations.

HONGKONG, April 7.

OPIMUM—New Patna, cash, 577/834	
Old, cash, 560/	
New Benares, cash, 560/574	
Old, cash, 570/724	
New Malwa, credit, 520/	
Old Malwa, credit, 520/	
Old Malwa, credit, 520/	
Allowance, Teas, 48/94	
Persian, Oily, 540/55	
Allowance, Teas, 16/24	
Persian, Paper tied, 645	
Allowance, Teas, 16/24	

Exchange.

Bank, Wire, 3/3

Demand, 3/6	
20 days' sight, 3/6	
1 month's sight, 3/6	
3 months' sight, 3/6	
Documentary 4 months' sight, 3/6	
India, Wire, 221	
Demand, 221	
Shanghai, demand, 724	
20 days' sight, private, 724	
Gold Leaf 90, 528/70	
Sovereigns, 5/6 1/2	

Temperature.

(Taken at Messrs. Robinson & Co.'s Premises, Queen's Road.)

HONGKONG, April 7.

Barometer—9 A.M., 29.950	
Do, 1 P.M., 29.930	
Do, 4 P.M., 29.910	
Thermometer—9 A.M., 78	
Do, 1 P.M., 80	
Do, 4 P.M., 80	
Do, (Wet bulb) 6 A.M., 75	
Do, Do, 1 P.M., 75	
Do, Do, 4 P.M., 75	
Do, Maximum, 81	
Do, Minimum over night, 73	

